



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

National Institutes of Health
Freedom of Information Office
Building 31, Room 5B-35
31 Center Drive, MSC 2107
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-2107
phone: (301) 496-5633
fax: (301) 402-4541

Via email: foia@americanoversight.org

October 18, 2019

Austin Evers
American Oversight
1030 15th Street, B255
Washington, DC 20005

Re: FOI Case No. 52845

Dear Mr. Evers:

This is the final response to your September 18, 2019, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request addressed to the FOIA Office, National Institutes of Health, (NIH) which was received in this office the same day. You requested a copy of the following:

All communications (including emails, email attachments, text messages, calendar invitations/entries, letters, memoranda, or other communications) between (a) the agency officials listed below and (b) any employees or representatives of the National Rifle Association (NRA) and its affiliates, including Chris Cox, Wayne LaPierre, Oliver North, Carolyn Meadows, John Commerford, Shannon Alford, and anyone communicating with an email address ending in @nra.org, @nrahq.org, @nraila.org, or @am.com.

- i. Francis Collins, Director, National Institutes of Health (NIH);
- ii. Lawrence Tabak, Principal Deputy Director, NIH;
- iii. Carrie Wolinetz, Acting Chief of Staff, NIH;
- iv. John Burlow, Associate Director for Communications and Public Liaison;
- v. Adrienne Hallett, Associate Director for Legislative Policy and Analysis;
- vi. Joshua Gordon, Director of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH); or
- vii. Jean Noronha, Director, Division of Extramural Activities (NIMH).

From the following date ranges:

October 1–15, 2017

November 5–19, 2017

February 14–28, 2018

April 22–May 6, 2018

May 18–June 1, 2018

June 28–July 2, 2018

October 27–November 21, 2018

May 31–June 14, 2019

June 23–July 7, 2019

July 28–August 18, 2019

August 31–September 14, 2019

The appropriate NIH offices searched the email accounts listed in your request above, and no records responsive to your request were located.

While we believe that an adequate search of appropriate files was conducted for the records you requested, you have the right to appeal this determination that no records exist which would be responsive to your request. Should you wish to do so, your appeal must be sent within ninety (90) days of the date of this letter, following the procedures outlined in Subpart F of the HHS FOIA Regulations (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/10/28/2016-25684/freedom-of-information-regulations>) to:

Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs/Agency Chief FOIA Officer
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Room 729H
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201
FOIARequest@hhs.gov
FAX: 202-690-8320

Please feel free to call 301-496-5633 for additional information or to inquire about your request. If you are not satisfied with the processing and handling of this request, you may contact the OD FOIA Public Liaison and/or the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS):

NIH FOIA Public Liaison

Stephanie Clipper

Public Affairs Specialist

Office of Communications and Public
Liaison

Building 1, Room 131

1 Center Drive

Bethesda, MD 20814

301-496-2411 (phone)

nihfoia@mail.nih.gov (email)

OGIS

National Archives and Records Admin.

8601 Adelphi Rd – OGIS

College Park, MD 20740-6001

202-741-5770 (phone)

1-877-684-6448 (toll-free)

202-741-5769 (fax)

ogis@nara.gov (email)

In certain circumstances, provisions of the FOIA and HHS FOIA Regulations allow us to recover part of the cost of responding to your request. Because no unusual circumstances apply to the processing of your request, there are no charges for search time.

If you have any questions about this response, please call the NIH FOIA office at 301-496-5633.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gorka Garcia-Malene', with a stylized, cursive script.

Gorka Garcia-Malene
Freedom of Information Officer, NIH